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RESEARCH

JOB MARKET PAPER

Feather-Handed Fascists: Surveillance as a Signal of Bureaucratic Loyalty (with [P. Grau-Vilalta](#) and [A. Xamo](#))

We show that surveillance in autocracies can be shaped less by ideology or competence than by bureaucrats' need to signal loyalty. Using prefect-level data from Fascist Italy (1922–40), it shows that career bureaucrats without credible loyalty markers engaged in significantly more surveillance than early regime loyalists, and highlights evidence that career concerns drive coercive behaviour.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Picking Winners: Evidence on State-steered Industrialisation

An analysis of postwar Italy's industrial policy through extensive state equity participation: acquisitions increase firm size, decrease profitability, and crowd in investment on fully private firms in the same sector.

Sirens: Evidence on Propaganda and Repression Under Autocracy

This paper studies Fascist Italy using exogenous signal strength variation to show that increased propaganda availability reduced state repression, particularly affecting less politically engaged individuals.

Pitchforks: Strategic Allocation of Policy Benefits Under Autocracy

I instrument agricultural strikes with seasonal rainfall to show Fascist Italy's development policies favoured politically opposed areas with credible collective action threats.

Seeds: Economic Development and the Persistence of Authoritarianism

These policies increased support for neo-fascists for decades post-democratisation, especially in high-propaganda areas, suggesting policy benefits durably change political equilibria only when matched with suitable narratives.

Scoops: A Theory of Access Journalism and Media Crookedness (with [K. Heo](#))

This model shows media slant emerges when incumbents trade news access for lenient scandal coverage, without the need for confirmation bias or political motives. Outlets are "crooked", as they offer worse deals to bad incumbents.

OTHER PROJECTS

Climate Migration and Political Tensions (with [M. Emeriau](#) and [S. Wolton](#))

Empirical exploration of the effects of climate-related Italian migration to France in the late XIX Century on labour mobilisation.

Bricks: The Long-term Political Impact of Public Housing

Digitising fine-grained archival data on INA-Casa, a major construction project implemented in Italy in the '50s and '60s, I aim to illuminate long-term "constituency building" by the Italian Christian-democrats.

PRESENTATIONS

2025	NYU CompPol Seminar, MPSA, KCL's APSG, Political Connections, EPSA, APSA, LSE PSPE WiP Seminar
2024	EPSA, SISP, LSE SPEECH Seminar, LSE PSPE WiP Seminar, Naples School of Economics Workshop
2023	LSE Government WiP Seminar

TEACHING

ASSOCIATE LECTURER, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

[PUBL0098](#) *The Politics of Public Policy*

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

[GV101](#) *Introduction to Political Science* (Prof Wolton)

[EC260](#) *Political Economy of Public Policy* (Prof Dewan, Prof Larcinese)

[GV225](#) *Public Choice and Politics* (Prof Dewan)

[GV4J7](#) *Introductory Mathematics for Political Science* (Dr Kudinova)

EDUCATION

2021 - 2026	PhD in POLITICAL ECONOMY London School of Economics (London, UK)
2025	Visiting Research Affiliate New York University (NYC, USA)
2017 - 2020	MSc in GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS Bocconi University (Milan, Italy)
2014 - 2017	BSc in ECONOMICS, MARKETS, AND INSTITUTIONS University of Bologna (Bologna, Italy)

EXPERIENCES

2020 - 2021	PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Bocconi University (Milan, Italy)
2019 - 2019	JUNIOR IT CONSULTANT, Capgemini (Milan, Italy)
2018 - 2018	EVENTS ASSISTANT, Italian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong (Hong Kong)
2016 - 2017	CITY COUNCILLOR, Municipal Council (Cesenatico, Italy)

MISCELLANEA

Organising	PSPE WiP Seminar Series (lead organiser, 2 years, weekly) Behavioural Political Economy Workshop (assistance, 2 editions) London Seminar for Graduate Political Science (founder, one edition)
IT	Working knowledge of Stata, R, python, \LaTeX . Basics of Mathematica, git, html.
Languages	Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (intermediate)